REMARKS

The specification has been amended to reflect the national stage status.

In addition, claims 1-12 are cancelled without prejudice.

Favorable action on the merits is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Yoshiko TAKAYAMA et al.

y: Nane

Warren M. Cheek, Vr. Registration No. 33,367

Attorney for Applicants

WMC/dlk Washington, D.C. 20006-1021 Telephone (202) 721-8200 Facsimile (202) 721-8250 April 29, 2005